

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that he has secured approval of \$520,000 from the House Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee he requested for various projects throughout the Hudson Valley. The CJS appropriations bill for fiscal year 2011 allocates \$250,000 for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Town of Wallkill, Pine Bush and Sullivan County; \$100,000 for the Bardavon 1869 Opera House; \$75,000 for the Newburgh City Police; \$60,000 for the Women's Studio Workshop in Kingston; and \$35,000 for the Children's Media Project in Poughkeepsie.

"The federal investments, which I requested and were approved last night, will expand learning opportunities for at risk youth, help reduce the crime rate and enhance the arts in our region," Hinchey said. "These projects will improve the quality of life for residents of the Hudson Valley and spare local taxpayers of the need to provide the funding through local taxes."

The \$520,000 in funds will be used in the following ways:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Town of Wallkill, Pine Bush and Sullivan County, \$250,000 -- This project will provide safe, supervised programs and activities for youths in high-risk areas in Sullivan County, and through collaborations with local partners, also provide substantial character development and civic volunteer opportunities.
- Bardavon 1869 Opera House, \$100,000 -- The funds will be used for artist fees, staff salaries, and production and marketing costs for the Arts-In-Education program, which has benefited thousands of at-risk Poughkeepsie and Kingston inner-city youth. Teaching artists empower students through meaningful and life-changing residencies that, along with classroom curricula, fulfill state learning standards.
- Newburgh City Police, \$75,000 -- The City of Newburgh Police Department will use the funds to upgrade patrol operations by adding three new marked police cruisers. The current patrol vehicle fleet is aging and needs to be upgraded.
- Women's Studio Workshop, \$60,000 -- The funds will be used to continue work with at-risk youth through the Hands-On Art program in which local artists serve as teachers, role models &

mentors, working with at-risk youth of Kingston City School District.

- Children's Media Project, \$35,000 -- The funds will benefit the Talking Walls project, which is a collaborative summer program for at-risk youth in Ulster County that consists of workshops in self-exploration, creative expression, media arts and literacy, community membership and the production of documentary videos. This program is designed to develop transferable social skills, workplace skills and technical skills.

Now that the projects have been approved by the subcommittee they must also be approved by the full committee before they can be voted on by the full House. The Senate will also take up its own version of the CJS appropriations bill for fiscal year 2011.